

**HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT CENTER AND SCHOOL
AND FORT SAM HOUSTON**

FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS 78234-5014



BULLETIN

THIS PUBLICATION IS VALID FOR 90 DAYS
SPONSORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS INFORMED



BULLETIN 09

03 MARCH 2011

Section I. OFFICIAL

1. Official notices in this bulletin are orders of the command.
2. **DETAILS:** The units listed herein are scheduled for Casualty Notification Officer (CNO) duty on the dates indicated.

CASUALTY NOTIFICATION:

01 FEB 11 – 31 MAR 11 – AMEDDC&S

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Directors/staff section chiefs/commanders will ensure their affected Soldiers are notified of changes. The CNO (formerly called Personnel Notification Officer (PNO)) is required to report to the Casualty/Mortuary Affairs Office, Bldg. 2263 room 200, on Wednesday for a briefing prior to going on detail. All SFC through MAJ are required to notify the Duty Roster Custodian 15 days prior to departing on leave or TDY and 30 days prior to PCS, retirement, or ETS. Personnel scheduled for CNO duty are required to possess a Defensive Driving Course Card and a valid military/civilian driver's permit in order to operate military vehicles in the performance of their duty. Any questions pertaining to these instructions, please contact the Casualty Affairs Office during duty hours, 221-0051/1780. After duty hours contact Staff Duty, Bldg. 367, at 221-2810.

3. FSH EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/SEXUAL HARASSMENT HOTLINE TELEPHONE NUMBER: The Installation Equal Opportunity/Sexual Harassment Hotline number is 295-0561 or DSN 421-0561. The purpose of the hotline is to provide procedural information on the filing of equal opportunity or sexual harassment complaints. The hotline is operational 24 hours a day. Callers may also contact the Equal Opportunity Office at 221-9543, DSN 471-9543, or by fax number 221-1322.

4. AUTOMATED OUT-PROCESSING SYSTEM: The Automated Out-Processing System was established to decrease the clearing time and limit Soldiers to clearing only those areas they have utilized during their tenure at FSH. Soldiers have a requirement to physically visit or call the Personnel Services at 1-9274, 35 days prior to departure, to schedule their initial appointment (which starts the process working). Soldiers will receive DA Form 137-R, Installation Clearance Record, at their initial briefing. Contact the point of contact at 295-8809.

5. CLAIMS AGAINST DECEASED PERSONNEL: For persons interested in collecting any debts adjacent to SSG Abel Martinez-Hernandez of A Co WTB (BAMC) Fort Sam Houston, TX, please contact 1LT Christopher J. Brewer at christopher.brewer9@us.army.mil or (210) 916-6216/(210) 563-6448 during the hours of 0800-1730.

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6. CLAIMS AGAINST DECEASED PERSONNEL: For persons interested in collecting any debts adjacent to SFC Brenda Arrindell of the Senior Leader Course, NCO Academy, Fort Sam Houston, TX, please contact MAJ Michael Watto at (907) 242-6535 during the hours of 0800-1730.

7. SMOKING CESSATION FEDERAL EMPLOYEES HEALTH BENEFITS (FEHB) COVERAGE: There has never been a better time to quit smoking. All FEHB plans now offer 100% coverage to help you finally quit. What is the 2011 FEHB Program tobacco cessation benefit? Beginning in plan year 2011, all FEHB plans must cover four tobacco cessation-counseling sessions of at least 30 minutes for at least two quit attempts per year. This includes proactive telephone counseling, group counseling, and individual counseling and all seven FDA-approved tobacco cessation medications. These benefits must be provided with no copayments or coinsurance and not subject to deductibles, annual, or lifetime dollar limits. While FEHB plans currently cover smoking cessation treatment programs, these programs often include copayments, coinsurance, and annual or lifetime coverage limits. The benefit covers all forms of tobacco use, including cigarettes, snuff, and chewing tobacco.

How can employees and annuitants access the benefit? For more information on how to access the benefit, employees should contact their health plan or consult their plan's brochure. For more information, see: <http://www.opm.gov/insure/health/nosmoking/officers.asp>. In addition, at the bottom left corner is a link to *Quit Smoking*. By clicking on that link, you will be able to access a promotional flyer that is suitable for marketing this positive FEHB benefit to your workforce. For more information, call (210) 221-2830.

8. MAIL DISTRIBUTION PICK UP FROM THE MAIL PROCESSING CENTER: Offices picking up mail and distribution from the Mail Processing Center, Bldg. 4190, should be checking daily or at a minimum twice a week. Offices that do not pick up in a 30-day period will find their mail and distribution returned to sender. If an office has special circumstances, the entire office is deploying or leaving the installation for 30 or more days, contact the Installation Postal Officer and arrangements will be made to hold or forward office mail. For any questions, please call the Installation Postal Officer at 210-221-4059.

9. NEW ENTRANT CONFIDENTIAL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REPORT: All commanders and supervisors are required by DOD 5500.7-R Joint Ethics Regulation (JER) to review the job duties of each employee (military or civilian) newly assigned or detailed to a **“covered position”** and promptly report the name of the employee to the Ethics Counselor, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate. That employee is required to file a New Entrant Confidential Financial Disclosure Report (OGE Form 450) within thirty days of assuming his or her position. An employee occupies a **“covered position”** when the official responsibilities of the employee require them to participate personally and substantially through decision or exercise of significant judgment in taking official action for contracting or procurement; administering or monitoring grants, subsidies, licenses or other Federally conferred financial or operational benefits; regulating or auditing any non-Federal entity; or other activities in which the final decision or action may have a direct and substantial economic impact on the interests of any non-Federal entity. An employee is also required to file an OGE Form 450 when the commander/supervisor determines that the duties and responsibilities of the position require the employee to file such a report to avoid an actual or apparent conflict of interests and to carry out the purpose of any statute, Executive Order, or regulation applicable to or administered by that reporting individual. On notification, the Ethics Counselor will contact the employee and assist him/her in obtaining, completing, and filing the OGE 450. The point of contact is the Ethics Counselor at 221-2373/0485.

10. INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY MONITORING: All Department of Defense (DOD) personnel (military, civilian, and contractors) must be given notification that use of official DOD telecommunications systems constitutes consent to information systems security monitoring. DOD telecommunications systems are provided for official Government communications. When these systems are used by Department of the Army components, they are subject to information systems security monitoring in

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accordance with Army Regulation 380-53. Guidelines specify that monitoring will be conducted so as to minimize the monitoring of telecommunications not related to security objectives. This is a security assessment technique that provides information not available through other sources and is essential for evaluating security within the U.S. Army. Monitoring will be performed in a manner that also protects, to the greatest degree possible, the privacy and civil liberties of individuals whose telecommunications are subject to monitoring. The following Telephone or Communications Directory Notice is required to be published at least quarterly in the command bulletin. (Official U.S. Army telephone directories will display this notice on the front cover or prominently within the general information section.)

Attention!

This is a DOD computer system. Before processing classified information, check the security accreditation level of this system. Do not process, store, or transmit information classified above the accreditation level of this system. This computer system, including all related equipment, networks and network devices (includes internet access) are provided only for authorized U.S. government use. DOD computer systems may be monitored for all lawful purposes, including ensuring that their use is authorized, for management of the system, to facilitate protection against unauthorized access, and to verify security procedures, survivability, and operational security. Monitoring includes, but is not limited to, active attacks by authorized DOD entities to test or verify the security of this system. During monitoring, information may be examined, recorded, copied, and used for authorized purposes. All information, including personal information, placed on or sent over this system may be monitored. Use of this DOD computer system, authorized or unauthorized, constitutes consent to monitoring. Unauthorized use of this DOD computer system may subject you to criminal prosecution. Evidence of unauthorized use collected during monitoring may be used for administrative, criminal, or other adverse action. Use of this system constitutes consent to monitoring for all lawful purposes.

The point of contact is the U.S. Army Support Activity Security Manager at 221-1906/9500.

11. FORT SAM HOUSTON MOBILIZATION SITE CUSTOMERS: Due to personnel shortage at the Fort Sam Houston Mobilization Site and the Separation Transfer Point, the following policy changes will become effective immediately.

a. All Soldiers scheduled to REFRAD must contact this office not less than ten (10) working days prior to their REFRAD and schedule an appointment. Personnel pending an extension who are within the 10-day window must schedule an appointment and start the demobilization process. This process will be stopped upon approval or their extension and receipt of new orders.

b. Walk-ins will be seen on an emergency basis only. Units must be prepared to issue extension/additional orders to keep the Soldier on Active Duty until their Out-Processing has been completed (minimum 72 hours). Please ensure all mobilized/ADOS Soldiers within your command are aware of the above policy. Request your cooperation and assistance in enforcing the policy above.

12. ANTITERRORISM AWARENESS – TRAVEL OUTSIDE THE U.S. AR 525-13 mandates that military personnel and DOD civilians traveling outside the 50 United States, its territories and possessions (to include on leave, pass, or temporary duty) receive:

- A destination country update within two months of travel and
- Antiterrorism Awareness Training (Level 1) within 12 months of travel.

For more information, contact your unit Antiterrorism Advisor or the Antiterrorism Office at 295-0535/221-9460.

13. MEDICAL RETENTION PROCESSING (MRP) PROGRAM: The Fort Sam Houston Mobilization Site has seen an increase in Soldiers activating and REFRADing with medical issues. There seems to be a

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great deal of confusion about how these Soldiers should be handled and who should take what action. The following guidance is provided in order to eliminate the confusion.

General Information:

a. Medical Retention Processing (MRP) Program:

(1) Purpose: The MRP program is a VOLUNTARY program that evaluates and treats the USAR/ARNG Soldier with an "in line of duty" incurred illness, injury, disease, and/or aggravated pre-existing medical condition.

(2) Who is eligible: USAR/ARNG Soldiers on active duty under title 10 USC 12302. Soldiers on active duty in support of SGOT under another authority will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

(3) When are they eligible:

(a) When a Soldier is not expected to Return To Duty (RTD) within 60 days from time of injury or illness, or, if they could RTD within 60 days, but will have fewer than 120 days left on current mobilization orders.

(b) If a Soldier's course of treatment cannot be completed prior to their REFRAD date.

b. Medical Retention Processing – Evaluation (MRP-E):

(1) Purpose: MRP-E is a VOLUNTARY Program to ensure that USAR/ARNG Soldiers receive appropriate medical processing upon demobilization for wounds injuries or illness incurred or aggravated in the Line of Duty.

(2) Who/When are Soldiers eligible: Soldiers arriving at the demobilization station that must remain on active duty (AD) beyond their REFRAD date to determine if further medical care or evaluation is warranted.

(3) Soldiers will be extended for no more than 30 days under the MRP-E program. If further retention is required, the Warrior Transition Battalion (WTB) will submit the necessary documents to extend them under the appropriate MRP program.

Procedural Guidance:

a. MRP - 10+ prior to REFRAD Date. If you have a USAR/ARNG Soldier with a medical condition that cannot be resolved prior to their REFRAD date, you need to contact the S-1, Fort Sam Houston WTB, 210-916-9762 immediately. They will assist you and the Soldier in completing the MRP application. Remember this is a VOLUNTARY Program. It is your responsibility to take care of your Soldiers. DO NOT wait until the Soldier is getting ready to REFRAD and expect us to take care of them. Please note, once a Soldier is accepted into the MRP Program they will be transferred to the WTB and their current active duty orders are revoked and they will no longer be a part of your command.

b. MRP-E - REFRAD Processing. If during the REFRAD process a medical condition is determined to exist that requires further evaluation and/or treatment, this office will initiate action to retain the Soldier under MRP-E program. Commanders and S-1a will be required to complete and sign a DA Form 4187. The DA Form 4187 must be processed immediately as this cannot retain a Soldier on active duty past their REFRAD date. Once the MRP-E packet has been submitted, the Soldier will be released to the Fort Sam Houston WTB.

c. This office will notify all commands with a Soldier placed in an AMBER status by either the Medical or Dental Sections. Depending on the circumstance the Soldier may be eligible for the MRP

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program; however, this office cannot make that determination. Once notified that they have a Soldier in an AMBER status, the Commander should obtain as much information as possible about the condition and contact the Fort Sam Houston WTB for further guidance.

Remember the MRP-E program is VOLUNTARY. You cannot order a Soldier to apply for, nor can you deny a Soldier the right to apply for the Program.

All Soldiers accepted into the MRP program are immediately transferred to the WTB and their current active duty orders become null and void. The appropriate medical authorities will determine length of time Soldiers are retained on active duty once they have been accepted to the MRP.

If you have any questions/concerns regarding this program, please call DSN: 471-0354, Commercial: (210) 221-0354, or Ft Sam Houston WTB, DSN: 429-9762, Commercial: (210) 916-9762.

**FOR THE COMMANDER:
HQ AMEDDC&S & FSH
OFFICIAL COPY
FT SAM HOUSTON, TX**

**OFFICIAL:
EARNEST C. BRIDGES
Chief, Military Personnel Division**

**DISTRIBUTION:
DB**